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JPRS L/9516 30 January 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
(FOUO 5/81)



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WORLDWIDE REPORT NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS (FOUO 5/81)

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INDONESIA

DRUG RELATED OFFENSES INCREASE IN 1980

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 1 Nov 80 pp 1, 9

[Text] Ganja (marijuana) abuse is more dangerous and more difficult to treat than morphine abuse. This is because ganja contains Tetra Hydrol Canabinol, which dissolves in body fat, and attacks vulnerable body parts such as the brain, or mens' reproductive organs. This can lead to an intelligent man becoming dull and impotent, according to Police Colonel Suharyono, commander of the Principal Narcotics Research Unit.

Suharyone said this at a press conference at the Narcotics Research Unit at State Police Headquarters. His deputy, Police Lieutenant Colonel J. Mandagie and the chief of the State Police Headquarters Information Service, Police Brigadier General Drs Darmawan Sudarsono, were also present.

Ganja abuse is a problem demanding attention, and it must be overcome. Suharyono noted that current interest was focused on morphine and heroin, while ganja drew less attention.

Suharyono stated that all narcotics come from abroad. However, ganja can be grown domestically, particularly in areas of Sumatra such as Aceh, Medan and Lampung, and distributed to Java.

Because it can be grown so widely, and since our soil is well suited to ganja plants, abuse of ganja increased in the first 10 months of 1980, compared to 1979. In 1980, 1,317,643.85 grams were siezed, compared to 795,956.617 grams in 1979.

The amount of heroin confiscated also rose, from 2,041 grams in 1979 to 6,016.6 in the first ten months of 1980.

In 1979, authorities siezed 4,281.7 grams of opium; 652,564 grams of morphine; 3,170 grams of hashish (processed ganja which generally orginates in Pakistan and Afghanistan) and 7,833 ganja stalks.

During the first 10 months of 1980, 7,750 grams of opium, 125,376 grams of morphine, 3,500 grams of hashish and 6,117 ganja stalks were confiscated.

Drug-related cases and the number of known addicts also increased. There were 396 cases in 1979, cf which 172 were settled, with 653 Indonesians and 29 aliens held, and 254 addicts.

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There have been 575 cases in 1980; 317 of these were closed with the arrest of 920 Indonesians, 42 aliens and 336 addicts.

All of these were handled by the State Police Headquarters' Principal Narcotics Research Unit and Police Regional Commands throughout Indonesia. The Narcotics Research Unit handles cases involving foreign connections, and those that are national scope, or cross regional lines, while other problems are handled by the respective regional commands.

Suharyono could not provide a definitive figure on the number of addicts, because normally, the addicts, themselves, or a family member reports them. This differs from ordinary crimes like murder, when other people provide information.

Addicts are usually reluctant to report themselves, for fear of involvement with the law. Usually, they report only if they are seriously ill and need treatment.

Thus, counting addicts is extremely difficult. If we follow the World Health Organization formula, the number is about 30,000.

The base year for that estimate is 1971. If there were 100 addicts that year, and 100 in 1972, the actual number in 1972 is 110, based on the 10 percent recidivism rate for treated addicts. This formula leads to the estimate of 30,000 addicts.

Since 1971, the police have confiscated around 9.5 billion Rupiahs worth of narcotics, at the black market price.

The black market price is calculated at 750,000 Rupiahs per kg of opium; 60 million Rupiahs per kg of heroin; 50 million Rupiahs per kg of morphine; 6 million Rupiahs per kg of cocaine; 2.5 million Rupiahs per kg of hashish; and 135,000 Rupiahs per kg of ganja.

Narcotics crimes are not like other crimes, said Suharyono. This is because narcotics crimes are committed by criminal organizations, and cannot be committed alone. Narcotics crimes are international, since the sources are abroad, except for ganja, meaning there are always foreign connections.

Because these crimes are carried out in secrecy, they must be dealt with in secret. Leaks will make our efforts futile.

We must move rapidly to shut down narcotics traffic, to cure current addicts and prevent the spread of addiction.

Because the victims, offenders and locations of the crime are unclear, unlike other crimes, investigation takes a long time. Arrests must be timed perfectly, to sieze the criminals and the evidence. This timing is often very difficult and time-consuming, sometimes taking months.

Suharyono cited four notable incidents handled by his Narcotics Research Unit, with the cooperation of foreign police, while one domestic case represented a new approach.

With the help of the Indonesian State Police, police in Bangkok confiscated 23 kg of heroin; Belgian police arrested a suspect, SG; and Dutch police siezed 13 kg of heroin.

Initially, Bangkok police phoned Suharyono, directly, with information. This led to investigation and tailing of SG, who traveled to Indonesia on 17 April 1979, and stayed at the Hyatt Arya Duta Hotel.

Indonesian police successfully infiltrated the plotters' organization undetected, so that they knew all of SG's contacts. They knew where he was going, and who his accomplices were. The Indonesian State Police informed the police of the nation to which SG was traveling, resulting in his arrest, and sentence to 9 years in prison in the Netherlands.

Successful cooperation between the Indonesian State Police and foreign police also led to the siezure of 2 kg of heroin and the arrest of Lim Peng Kio, sentenced to life at the Court of First Instance and Serre, a Thai fugitive, at the Hotel Sari Pasific on 1 June 1979.

Serre is reportedly now in Bangkok, out of reach of Indonesian police, although Interpol was asked to help by issuing a red Wanted Notice.

On 2 March 1980, police arrested a heroin smuggler, thanks to cooperation of customs officials at Halim Perdanakusuma Airport. KS, an Indonesian citizen, was arrested, and during investigation, it was learned he intended to go to Amsterdam to transfer 5 kg of heroin he was carrying. Police immediately moved, in Amsterdam and Medan.

According to KS, the man who was to meet him would be in Amsterdam in 5 days; as a result, Indonesian police moved swiftly.

The team sent to Amsterdam received help from the Dutch police, resulting in the arrest of the "brains" of the heroin smuggling network, a Malaysian national named CAM, and his accomplice, JSA.

They were arrested at the Hotel Hilton, but the team sent to Medan failed, because the suspects were able to escape.

Apparently, CAM was the brains of the network, which smuggled heroin via Bangkok-Kuala Lumpur-Penang-Medan-Jakarta, for shipment to Amsterdam. KS was arrested at Halim.

On 2 October, the Bali police informed the Narcotics Research Unit about a scheduled heroin sale. The Bali police received the information from a foreigner who had successfully infiltrated the smuggling network, and learned that the sale would take place in Sanur, and the day it would occur.

The Federal Police of Austraila were informed, because the heroin had first been brought to Austraila. Three Indonesian nationals, PN, JS and Th were arrested, and one kg of heroin worth \$30,000 was siezed.

Narcotics crime has kept pace with technological progress. Smugglers now use false names and addresses for both sender and recipient on packages containing ganja.

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On 15 September, police arrested Tw, Sp and Ed, with 3.8 kg of ganja.

On 18 September, police in the Metro Jaya Police Regional Command arrested eight persons for smuggling ganja.

The flow of illegal narcotics has shifted from the Golden Triangle to Pakistan and Afghanistan. Narcotics now enter the United States via Zurich. Smugglers generally use two passports—one to travel from Pakistan and Afghanistan to Zurich, and the other one out of Zurich, to cover their tracks.

Police could not deny that Indonesia would be a major market for drugs, since the income of the nation is rising, and the geography is favorable, with many islands and remote areas.

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

MORPHINE TRAFFICKER HELD--A woman involved in trading morphine injections and tablets was hauled up and booked under the Islamic Law on Monday. The woman, Zainab alias Bano was allegedly running narcotic sale business at her residence in Sooter Mandi, inside Lohari Gate. Two hundred injections and 180 morphine tablets and a sale money of Rs 1200 were seized from her possession. Seven addicts who were present at the house to get themselves injected with the morphine injections were also rounded up. A worker, Ahmad Ali employed by the lady for administering injections to the addicts was also arrested. The smuggled and locally prepared morphine injections and tablets were sold at Rs 10/-per item. The seven drug addicts hauled up by the raiding party are Rashid, Saifuddin, Altaf Hussain, Abdur Rashid, Liaquat Ali and Mohammad Rashid and Ahmad Ali. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 16 Dec 80 p 7]

SMUGGLING BID FOILED—Rawalpindi, Dec. 19--The Custom's Mobile Staff number one Rawalpindi seized more than 1600 kg of charas and over 53 kg of opium valued about one million rupees near Dina (Gujrat), some 100 kilometres from here early today. Chaudhry Mustafa, Assistant Director Land Customs Rawalpindi said here this evening that this was the biggest ever narcotics haul by the local Custom's authorities. Two persons, Akbar Jan and Nasrullah, residents of Bara Near Peshawar were arrested on the charge of smuggling narcotics. During the interrogation, the customs sources said both the smugglers disclosed the names of real owners of there narcotics. They are Saeed Jan and Hukkam Jan, residents of Tribal area, and well-known smugglers of charas.—PPI. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 Dec 80 p 3]

CHARAS SEIZED--Hyderabad, Excise police has apprehended two narcotics peddlers, Ghulam Qadir and Shaukat, and recovered from their possession 260 grams of charas and opium. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 17 Dec 80 p 6]

CHARAS SEIZURE IN HYDERABAD—Hyderabad, Dec 28—The local police today unearthed a four-member notorious gang of contrabad charas traffickers' and in a raid over on narcotic den at Kali Mori, have recovered 10 maunds of charas, valuing rupees one crore. The police also detained two chowkidars namely—Khatibur Rehman, and Mukhtiar under Abkari Act, Section 43(3). The alleged gang consists of Daud Khan Pathan, Aurangzeb, Zahir Shah and Majid. Efforts for their detection are under way. According to details, the S.P. Hyderabad last night got a hint that a big charas traffickers' gang was active in the city. Also that a den existed in the Katchi Abadi of Kali Mori. Supported

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by a contingent of task force, two police officials, Inspector Khalid Ahmed and Inspector Chand Mohammad, raided the den in earlier morning. Two chowkidars were taken into custody. On their pointation [as published], the police recovered 10 maunds of charas. The chowkidars have stated that they were employees of Daud Khan Pathan, Aurangzeb, Zahir Shah and Majid. The den existed at the place for quite a number of years. The police is actively working on hot clues to detect the alleged four gangsters.—APP. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 29 Dec 80 p 1]

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ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Berbae Ledantes, alias Juan Rudecindo Sanabria Montenero or Antonio Constantino Suarez or Luis Suarez, Argentine, 51, has been sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined 200,000 pesos for bringing into the country from Bolivia 3 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride in July 1979. [PY202104 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 10 Jan 81 p 18 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN CUSTODY--Salta, 12 Jan (NA)--A Salta federal judge has ordered preventive custody of four drug traffickers caught trying to introduce cocaine from Bolivia. Gloria Luz Reinaga Gutierrez, a Bolivian student, was arrested and 3,750 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride found in her possession. She was arrested at the Bolivian border. The police then arrested Manuel Godoy Figueroa, a Chilean, who was using a forged Spanish passport. In another operation, the police arrested Marta Rosa Dominguez de Solano, Bolivian and seized 2.9 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride. During the same operation the police also arrested Jaime Gustavo Alfaro Rojas, a Chilean, who was using a forged Italian passport. [Buenos Aires Noticias Argentinas in Spanish 1920 GMT 12 Jan 81 PY]

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED—A ring of marihuana drug traffickers who used a system of introducing compressed marihuana into canned foods to bring it into the country have been arrested. They are Juan Carlos Martin, Alfredo Gauna, Roberto Scandura, Ricardo Alvarez, Jose German Matorras, Daniel Lucio Verduras. [Buenos Aires CRONICA in Spanish 8 Jan 81 p 10 PY]

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--La Paz, 13 Jan (TELAM)--The National Directorate of Dangerous Substances has reported that 41 kilograms of cocaine have been seized in several police operations and that six persons have been arrested but their names were not released for security reasons. The first operation took place on 9 January when 23.7 kilograms of cocaine base were seized and two persons were arrested. The following day a Spaniard was arrested and 2.5 kilograms of cocaine seized. On 11 January, another person was arrested and 13 kilograms of cocaine seized. The last operation took place on 12 January, when two persons were arrested and 2 kilograms of cocaine seized. [PY192312 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 13 Jan 81 PY]

ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS--In the course of the operations being carried out throughout the country to suppress the processing and traffic of dangerous drugs, a cocaine laboratory was discovered on 5 January at El Puente, located 105 km from Santa Cruz in the Huayapacha District of Cochabamba Department. Two persons were arrested and another is still being sought. [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 CMT 7 Jan 81 PY]

COCAINE SEIZED--Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 7 Jan (TELAM)--The Narcotics Department of Santa Cruz has seized 5.5 kilograms of cocaine in the town of Montero, northern part of Santa Cruz Department. Two persons have been arrested but their names were not given. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2150 GMT 7 Jan 81 PY]

BRAZIL

INADEQUATE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT IN RIO DISCUSSED

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Dec 80 p 15

[Text] The state Secretariat of Health yesterday reported that the agency has no outpatient clinic or special facility for the treatment of drug addicts. Silvio Barbosa, secretariat advisor, said this problem will soon be remedied.

"Yesterday (day before yesterday), the newspapers published the governor's decree creating a state council, comprising representatives of the secretariats of Security, Education and Health, to work specifically on the problem of addicts."

"In the immediate future, what can the Health Secretariat offer for an addict who seeks treatment?"

"The problem of addiction is related to psychiatry. In Rio, specifically, we have no state-administered psychiatric hospitals. The nearest one is in Niteroi (Jurujuba Hospital). There are also the psychiatric hospitals in Barra do Pirai and Carmo, the latter considered a model institution of its kind."

The advisor also reported that the Pino and Pedro II Federal Hospitals, located in Rio, could be an option for addicts, "in addition to the hundreds of nursing homes that maintain agreements with INAMPS [National Institute for Social Security Medical Assistance]."

Taking an accounting of his administration several days ago, Erasmo Martins Pedro, secretary of justice, said he had designated a task force to adapt the National System of Drug Prevention, Control and Repression at the state level. The group is "finalizing the plans" for construction of the first hospital for the treatment, classification and shelter of drug addicts. According to the justice secretary, construction will begin in the next 6 months, on a site already marked out in Bangu.

PINEL

Paulo Cesar Geraldes, director of PINEL, said yesterday that, by its nature as an emergency and outpatient facility, the hospital treats "anyone who requires psychiatric care, whether he is insured by INPS [National Social Security Institute] or not, including addicts."

"The problem is that, by reason of these same characteristics, the hospital cannot offer the prolonged treatment that addicts often require, such as psychotherapy or similar treatment. When an addict comes to us, after we examine him, we usually provide support therapy or even crash treatment."

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Alcoho1

The director of PINEL explained that drugs like marihuana do not call for internment unless the case is serious or they have produced reactions and psychiatric disturbances.

"A marihuana addict is not usually interned. He is treated as follows: If necessary, he is interned until he is in good condition clinically, i.e., physically detoxified. Then he is given support therapy and, again if necessary, he may receive drug therapy. Finally, he receives psychotherapy on an out-patient basis."

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BRAZIL

FOUR DRUG RING MEMBERS ARRESTED IN BOCA DO MATO

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Dec 80 p 12

[Text] Yesterday morning on Morro do Ceu, in Boca do Mato, soldiers of the 3d Military Police Battalion arrested four members of a drug trafficking ring known as "Pituca," which supplies marihuana and cocaine in the districts of Engenho Novo, Luis and Agna Santa.

In the three shacks occupied by the bandits, the police seized 157 packets of cocaine, 370 envelopes of marihuana, 4 kg of brick marihuana, a scale, two revolvers and ammunition, as well as a notebook containing names and the quantities of drugs supplied to other traffickers.

The four arrested are Elias Batista, aged 26, a fugitive from the 20th Police Precinct; Jorge Oliveira, aged 27; Jose Luis da Conceicao, aged 48; and Sergio dos Santos, aged 25, who was convicted in the First Criminal Court for the murder, about a year ago, of one Angela, a niece of trafficker Sabara.

Arrest

Led by Lieutenant Alipio, the military police went up the hill at dawn. The police secret service had reported the precise location of the bandits, who offered no resistance, but tried to escape on foot when they saw the soldiers approaching.

The first to be arrested was Elias, who was carrying a .22-caliber revolver and ammunition. The 157 packets of cocaine, 370 envelopes of marihuana, the scale, the notebook and 20,915 cruzeiros were hidden in the oven of the stove.

Names

The notebook contained the names of small traffickers who purchased drugs there, some of whom were known to the police: Charles, "Bimba," "Pintinha," "Buda," Claudio, Fernando, "Gordo," Miro, "Rolinha" and Elias.

In the second shack, Jorge Oliveira and Sergio dos Santos were arrested with 4 kg of brick marihuana, a .38-caliber revolver and a quantity of ammunition. They implicated Jose Luis, who was sleeping alone in another shack. According to them, Jose Luis picked up the drugs at the foot of the mountain and delivered them to the sales point.

Statement

In the 25th Police Precinct in Engenho Novo, Sergio said he was the son of convict Felipe Neves dos Santos, "Felipao," who was convicted of homicide 20 years ago in Frei Caneca. He also said he did not like the trafficker "Sabara," who has already been arrested, and that it was during an [argument] with him that he killed Sabara's niece. He denied, however, that he was a drug trafficker or that the weapon found in his shack belonged to him.

Jorge Oliveira said he had never been arrested and that he currently works as a handyman with his brother Sidney. Elias and Jose Luis admitted they were drug traffickers.



COLOMBIA

LATIN AMERICAN DRUGS PICTURE DESCRIBED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 19 Dec 80 Sec D p 20

[Article by Robert Coram: "A Mutual Distrust"]

[Text] (The author of this article, Robert Coram, specializes in writing articles on drugs for the ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, and for national and regional publications in the United States.)

The Latin Americans have discovered that the drug traffic, which is causing serious economic and social damage internationally, can only be curbed through international negotiations.

During recent months, more and more Latin American public officials have become convinced of the reprehensible nature of drug smuggling and its extensive proliferation in the hemisphere. They have also noted that the smugglers appear increasingly more aggressive.

From a limited standpoint, the drug traffic appears to be concentrated in one or two countries, as indicated by an official of Panama Civil Aviation, who said: "We Latin American countries are only transit locations. The drug smuggling is a problem of the United States."

The use of private planes to ship illegal drugs, one of the many means used for smuggling, causes other problems in addition to those stemming from the drug traffic itself.

Nearby Guajira

Let us observe Venezuela, adjacent to the Guajira Peninsula of Colombia, the starting point for many of the illegal drugs sent from Latin America to the United States.

Jose Zapata, general director of Venezuelan Civil Aviation, declares: "The smugglers are creating an increasing number of problems for the safety of flights in my country.

"The most common ones are the search and rescue missions, which cost Venezuela hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, as well as the employment of rescue personnel the waste of time, a high degree of maintenance and the expenditure in ships and aircraft."

It operates as follows: The smugglers enroute to Colombia submit a legitimate flight plan to Vocezuela. This is a protective measure in the event that they are forced to land in Colombia and are accused of violating that country's air space. If anything happens, they can say that they were on a normal flight plan, and that they became lost or had an emergency during the flight. This flight plan enables those directing the air traffic to ascertain that the plane is on its route until, in Venezuelan air space, they declare an emergency, turn off their radios and head toward Colombian Guajira, after a few minutes of flying.

As a result of the loss of radio contact, Venezuela organizes an intense search and rescue mission for the aircraft, after it has stopped responding to repeated radio calls. The search could continue for days, involving ships and aircraft. Then, a few weeks later, Zapata discovers that the aircraft has been observed in the United States.

He says that these false emergency calls occur about once a week. As a result, Zapata claims, the radio emergency calls in Venezuelan air space are losing credibility.

He remarked: "Some day a real emergency situation will occur, and it will not be recognized."

Aruba

Another location exposed to great danger as a result of the smugglers' attitude is Aruba, a small island near the coast of Venezuela.

Mike Nicholas, director of the Aruba airport, comments: "We are experiencing an increasing number of situations wherein collisions occur in the air space owing to the drug smugglers. In 1978, there were 22 incidents; and in 1979, there were 45."

Aruba is only a short flight from the tip of the Guajira Peninsula. If the Colombian Air Force intercepts a smuggler, the latter escapes and hides in Aruba. Sometimes bad weather or the lack of gasoline forces the smugglers to land in Aruba. They often fail to notify the airport tower in advance; they simply come from anywhere, and land.

Nicholas said that, recently, "a catastrophe almost happened," when a passenger plane with 120 tourists aboard was about to take off, when a smuggler, without making radio contact with the control tower, landed in the opposite direction. Nicholas remarked that, if an airplane loaded with passengers had crashed with a drug smuggler, "our entire economy would have been damaged."

Costa Rica on the Route

Roberto De Benedictis, director of Costa Rican Civil Aviation, says that his country has become part of the Central American itinerary used by the drug smugglers who are bound for Mexico and the western United States. He claims that large airplanes lacking the proper certification of satisfactory operation, owned by nonexistent companies" and piloted by individuals who lack permission to do so, often traverse Costa Rica. He said that he is greatly concerned with the dangers posed by these planes to legitimate flights and to the population on land.

De Benedictis noted that, last year, Costa Rica seized marihuana valued at over \$250 million, and illegal pills worth over \$18 million, which are astronomical sums for such a small country.

Both Nicholas and De Benedictis cited examples of armed drug smugglers who landed and intimidated the airport authorities.

Several months ago, smugglers took over the international airport on the island of South Caicos for several hours. They held a shootout in the airport, seeking a man whom they said that they wanted to kill, and they finally flew elsewhere.

Marihuana Instead of Coffee

The incentive for profit from drugs has steered the country's normal activities toward the smugglers' sphere of influence. For example, hundreds of coffeegrowers in Colombia are no longer growing coffee, but rather marihuana.

In Colombia, where the government controls the coffee industry, this means that the nation suffers a direct loss of revenue when coffee production declines; and since coffee has many more middlemen and benefits more people than the illegitimate marihuana, the net result of the change in crops means a loss of jobs for workers, and large profits for a small group.

The harm caused to the society by the smuggling produces effects that are less visible but perhaps more damaging than those of an economic nature. They include an overt, widespread violation of the laws in the countries wherein the smuggling has proliferated.

The law-abiding citizens observe the large-scale evasion of the law that always accompanies drug smuggling; and they note that many laws are violated with impunity over a long period of time. Almost subconsciously, they wonder: Why not? As a result some of them also start to break the law; or they think that if the law is not upheld in one area, it is not upheld in any. The result is that they become less respectful of the law.

Many violations of law occur because the public officials are corrupted with money from drugs. The smuggling would be far more difficult if the public officials, and the military and civilian agents and authorities enforced the law.

Nevertheless, it is dangerous to resist, and the honest officials have to be careful. A judge who publicly opposed drug trafficking was recently murdered in Colombia. Scores of government officials, military and police officers, judges and other civil authorities have been killed by drug traffickers in Colombia alone.

Drug Victims

But the violence is not confined to preventive measures against the forces of law; violent crime and the illegal drug traffic go hand in hand. Those involved in the traffic distrust one another, and fight for authority and territory, among other things. The traffickers also attack anyone who stands in their way. On the Guajira

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Peninsula scores of deaths have been documented among traffickers, and there are reports of many other deaths related to drugs all over Colombia.

A country deeply implicated in drug trafficking inevitably earns a bad reputation among the family of nations. Bolivia is a good example. The allegations to the effect that the coup d'etat last July was backed by money from drugs monopolized the headlines throughout the world.

There is a multitude of deepseated and alarming problems brought on by the drug traffic, and they are not confined only to the United States, Latin America or any other part of the world. These are shared problems, and the solution should be made possible through cooperation among all the countries affected.

Until then, the illegal drug traffic will continue to weaken the fabric of the society of any country that it affects.

2909

cso: 5300

COLOMBIA

JUDGES INVESTIGATED FOR FREEING TRAFFICKERS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Dec 80 Sec A p 15

[Text] Two judges, one from Ibague and the other from Bogota, are under investigation by the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation for irregularities associated with probes that this office is conducting of the drug traffic.

The 32d judge of criminal proceedings of Ibague, Buenaventua Lugo, is being investigated for suddenly allowing the release of six individuals who were seriously implicated in drug trafficking.

The subjects Oscar de Jesus Ortiz Valencia, Antonio Jose Restrepo Ramirez, Hector de Jesus Garcia Gonzalez, Rosemberg Arias Montes, Oscar Benitez and Francisco Jimenez were captured by F-2 in the vicinity of Natagaima, Tolima, on 21 August of this year.

On that occasion, the secret agents discovered a modern laboratory for cocaine processing on the Guaguaraquito farm in the rural section of La Molana. At least 700 kilograms of the alkaloid were seized.

The six captives were taken to the model jail in Bogota, and the indictment was drawn up by Judge Buenaventura Lugo, in Ibague.

On 15 October of this year, the decision of the indicting official to release the six captives, apparently for lack of evidence, was disclosed.

Upon learning of the release of the accused, the national chief of F-2, Col Nacim Yanine Diaz, filed a complaint with the Office of the General Prosecutor of the Nation, which ordered the investigation of the official.

In Bogota

Moreover, the Office of Assistant Prosecutor for Judicial Vigilance ordered an investigation opened in the 18th penal circuit court of Bogota, because of the disappearance of an indictment for drug trafficking.

The general secretary of the Prosecutor's Office, Jose Roberto Herrera Vergara, said that \$122,580 in U.S. currency was confiscated in the indictment that disappeared.

Upon noting the disappearance of the aforementioned records, which took place a few weeks after the court investigation was opened, the head of that office visited the Prosecutor's Office in person, to request the probe.

Inquiry

The Assistant Prosecutor's Office, for its part, ordered disciplinary investigations opened in various parts of the country, in connection with the following matters:

In the government of Huila, based on a complaint filed by Faustino Fantino, general manager of Codiauto, who stated that public bid No 002 of 1980, for the purchase of dump trucks, loaders, motor graders and tractors, was awarded to a firm whose bid did not comply with the specifications, nor with the terms of international credit authorized by the Ministry of Finance.

In the government of Antioquia, regarding a possible violation of legal contracting regulations in the process of open bidding by the aforementioned entity for the renovation of the department's automobile stock, especially in connection with the purchase of CJ-7 campers. The probe was requested by Lorenzo Solano Pelaez, general secretary of the Ministry of Government.

Penalties

In addition, the first regional prosecutor of Bogota, in a decision of the first instance, handed down the following disciplinary decisions:

He requested suspension of Tobias Murgas Cotes, auditor of the comptrollership of the National Insurance Fund, from the exercise of his functions for a period of 20 days, because in the contract concluded between that entity and architect Carlos Reyes for the construction of physiotherapy facilities in the clinic, he received projects in addition to those initially agreed on, without the respective contract nor budget inspection, tax payment, or extension or renewal of guarantees. For similar actions, the same disciplinary penalty was imposed on Alejandro Maestre Palmera, in his capacity as auditor of the National Insurance Fund.

He also requested the suspension of Carlos Luque Mojica, director of the Assets Division of the National University of Colombia, from the exercise of his functions for a period of 8 days, for having omitted in the specifications for bid No 2 of 1978, the reference to the specifications and quality of the assets which were the subject of the contract.

The investigation was carried out based on a complaint filed by the Workers Union of the National University.

He requested a 25-day suspension of Filiberto Poveda Lozano, deputy mayor of Fontibon, for having carried out dispossess proceedings against Angelino Hernandez Moreno and others for alleged de facto occupation, without drawing up the pertinent documents and disregarding the right of those concerned to submit evidence that would justify their possession. The penalty was also substantiated by the fact that the aforementioned official ordered those dispossessed to be placed at the disposal of the Fontibon substation, without including the report backing such a measure.

He requested a 25-day suspension of Maj (ret) Carlos Manuel Codina Escallon, director of the model jail in Bogota, for having penalized that establishment's legal adviser, Lucy J. Figueroa, on three occasions, without carrying out the respective disciplinary procedures.

The same regional prosecutor's office imposed a penalty of a fine equivalent to 30 days' salary on Maj Carlos Codina, for not having resolved two motions to set aside filed by an immate against penalizing decisions made against him, "one of which was imposed in a biased manner, based on a nonexistent regulation."

COLOMBIA

CIENAGA CIRCUIT JUDGE, DAUGHTER SHOT

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Nov 80 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Article by special correspondent German Santamaria: "They Killed the One He Loved Most"]

[Text] Cienaga, 2 Nov--One afternoom in July 1976, a 9-year-old little girl answered the phone in a house on a dusty street in Cienaga. She only heard a muffled voice which told her: "Tell that fornicating father of yours that he will not go on fornicating much longer because we are going to kill him."

The little girl put the receiver down. She was too little to know that her father, the Cienaga circuit court criminal judge Jose Angel Bolanos had several days earlier handed down a judgment against one of the biggest marihuana traffic bosses along the entire Atlantic Coast.

From that day on however life changed for the little girl because, in addition to the threatening phone calls which came increasingly frequently, the entire family on many occasions slept on the floor out of fear of a burst of machinegun fire coming through the window.

But the fear springing from that first phone call turned into reality 4 years later, precisely at 2300 last Saturday, when eight bullets hit the body of Zoyla Mery Bolanos, now 13 years old, wearing green slacks, a white blouse with blue stripes, and long hair which had never been cut before.

Zoyla Mery did not manage to become an adolescent and fell to the sidewalk in front of her home, where, together with her father, she was brushing the mud off her shoes when the shooting began. The two of them had been walking hand in hand for eight blocks, returning to their home, after watching television at the grandmother's home.

The moon lit up the night and the former judge had just commented to his daughter about how beautiful those three teddy bears were which he had brought from Cuba, whence he had returned 15 days earlier, after attending an international forensic medicine congress there.

Fond of his evening walks, as only fathers along the coast can be, perhaps inspired by a feeling of machismo, idolized by his daughters, Jose Angel Bolanos, 39, dark and powerful, did not realize that a man had emerged from behind the last corner and that, when he was cleaning his shoes, he began to fire; there were seven bullets for the father and eight for the daughter.

While the little girl died instantly, the former judge lived. Thus had been perpetrated one of the most execrable crimes in the nation's history.

The Highest Price

Attorney Jose Angel Bolanos is now in a hospital center in Barranquilla, with three bullets still in his leg, in his hip, and in his stomach.

He told us that he had served Colombian justice for 10 years. "But I never imagined that the price I would have to pay for my service to the judicial branch would precisely have to be the life of my daughter," he said and looked at the wall where there was a photo of Zoyla Mery.

Then he told us about his life and the last 3 years became an indictment of Colombian justice.

He was as a matter of fact appointed judge of the ninth criminal district of Barranquilla in 1977. And he did the job so well that many people believe that justice in Barranquilla can be divided into the times before and after Jose Angel Bolanos.

In summary, during a period of 2 years, judge Bolanos exposed cases of fraud against the government involving an amount close to 2 billion pesos and sent at least 200 persons to jail, including the mayor of the city, the comptroller, and the secretary of public works.

He did such a tremendous job that the city's Rotary Club at the end of 1978 honored him as the judge of the year. But Colombian justice did not reward him similarly. The Superior Court of the Atlantic did not reappoint him and on 30 October 1979, Jose Angel Bolanos had to vacate the office of the ninth criminal court; he opened his own office in the building of the Barranquilla Chamber of Commerce.

In simple terms, Jose Angel Bolanos was the only judge capable of harnessing the most corrupt official administration of Colombia, that is, the administration of Barranquilla; but the Superior Court of the Atlantic in practice deprived him of his authority, removed him from his position as a judge, and left him out in the street, with all of his enemies coming after him, to such a point that the threat was finally implemented when they wounded him last Saturday and killed his daughter.

That is the worst of it all. And here is how he puts it: "Justice in Colombia has become a political football. I do not have an political sponsors because I am an independent man and I spent all my time studying my country's laws in order to serve Colombia. And they did not reappoint me simply because I had no political influence and, precisely at a point when I was involved in one of my most delicate investigations, I found myself out in the street, without a job, without protection, and with all my enemies coming after me."

The First Scandal

Jose Angel Bolanos got his law degree in 1969 at the Free University of Barranquilla after having some trouble in his studies because he belonged to a lower middle-class family from Cienaga, where his father was managing a small coffee mill.

Bolanos, who always had a temper ever since he was a little boy, was also a man of intellectual reflection, to such a point that his home was filled with books, both those of the classical authors of literature and those of the great law treatise writers.

He was one of those rare intellectuals who grow among the dusty heat of the little towns along the coast. But he was also quite different because he was attracted by the rigor of justice and he wanted to make sure that every day was lived to the fullest.

This is why, 2 months after graduating, he began his career as a judge in the little towns along the coast. At the end of 1969, he was a general city judge in San Sebastian de Buenavista. Just one year later he was in Aracataca and at the beginning of 1971 he came to Salamina, Magdalena.

This is where he for the first time earned his spurs in the implementation of justice. There were two councils in this little town. And the city government took over the local council. Judge Bolanos then launched a trial involving charges of abuse of authority and that resulted in the jailing of treasurer Jorge Riquet, solicitor Jose Charry, and the secretary as well as the lady mayor.

Judge Bolanos did not allow himself to be impressed either on the Sunday when a large number of Salamina parishioners got drunk, took over the court, and dragged him out and beat him. But he did not leave his post. He remained in Salamina for one more year and in the end all the people realized that the judge was right.

When the people agreed that he was right, Jose Angel Bolanos continued his career as a judge until he came to his home town of Cienaga early in 1976. And that is when the terror began.

For a Bottle of Whiskey

The people of Cienaga--many of whom had known the troubled times of the banana companies and the Dutch prostitutes--did not believe that the boy, who had played baseball on the dusty streets, was going to be a real judge.

But a week later the whole thing was cleared up. Two boys, who had been arrested for some minor smuggling, told him: "Look here, Jose Angel, let us go and we will give you a bottle of whiskey we have at home." Bolanos looked them in the eye. "Keep it so that you may drink it when you get out of jail," he replied and he let them go only after they had served their sentence.

Then everybody began to understand that this was a different kind of judge although basically they thought that no judge along the coast would resist the temptation of a bribe of 1 million pesos.

But a few weeks afterward, Judge Bolanos did resist a bribe of 3 million pesos. That happened when, on the beach near Cienaga, several men were taken by surprise while unloading more than 5 tons of marihuana from a boat. The traffickers began to offer him half a million and finally raised the ante all the way to 3 million—but Judge Bolanos sent them to jail.

But astonishment grew further several months later. That was when Jose Angel Bolanos sentenced a well-known international marihuana dealer living in Cienaga, in a mansion standing in the middle of a putrid pond but so luxurious and so safe that the Mercedes Benz car could be driven to his bedside.

That is when that phone call reached the home, the one that was answered by little Zoyla Mery. After that there were many other phone calls and equally threatening notices were slipped under the door so that it was necessary to station two police officers in front of that lower middle-class home. Practically the entire family used to sleep on the loor out of fear of machinegun fire coming through the windows. On the floor slept Judge Bolanos and his wife Maria Concepcion Canedo de Bolanos, and their three children, Fidel Camilo, Zoyla Mery, and little Jose Angel, Jr. Although she slept on a mattress on the floor, Zoyla Mery was surrounded by her collection of bears and monkeys.

Threat in Barranquilla

Early in 1977, Jose Angel Bolanos was appointed judge of the ninth criminal court of Barranquilla. Zoyla Mery was already 10 years old and entered Presentacion High School of Cienaga where she fully exercised her talents for leadership; she was first in dancing, in reciting, and she was also the leader of a "combo" of ten girls who constituted the vanguard group in all high school activities.

In the meantime, her father was handling some very serious cases. For example, on 10 January 1978 he issued an arrest order against the entire staff of the Barran-quilla city administration in connection with the Calixto Leyva High School which involved the repair of some roofing that was worth only a little more than 800,000 pesos although the cost was inflated up to about 4 million. The verdict among other things hit former mayor Alfonso Nicolela Decaro, public works secretary Cristino Alvarez Torregrosa, and the comptroller at the time, Estelio Rancedo.

Around that time, Judge Bolanos discovered that there were more than 150 persons in the Municipal Public Enterprises—a real cesspool in Colombian public administration—who had retired on the basis of phony work certificates, issued by the Atlantic Police Department.

While investigating ways in which Public Enterprises were collecting pay for dead persons and individuals who existed only in the imagination, Judge Bolanos discovered graft involving 1 million pesos in the Telephone Company. As if that were not enough, he also looked into the finance management situation and to his astonishment it was discovered that graft had been going on there for several years amounting to more than 1 billion pesos, both through falsification and replacement of tax receipts and through the falsification of the CAT (tax credit certificate).

All of this caused widespread astonishment throughout the nation. The press talked about this great judge. They picked him as judge of the year because he had dared put an end to corruption in Barranquilla, a city where a comptroller—by the name of Napoleon Fernandez—was murdered with his wife the day before submitting evidence to the Council regarding graft and where a visitor from Bogota—Rafael Rubio Pupo—was riddled with bullets at the entrance to his hotel while he was investigating tax fraud.

Jose Angel Bolanos worked relentlessly, issuing arrest orders against more than 200 persons and day after day he delved more deeply into the shattering administrative immorality of Barranquilla while he was subjected to a flood of calls and letters and attempts at bribery. "Even if it costs 5 millions, you have to stop this tax investigation," they told him.

In three cases of homicide and four cases of drug trafficking, which he had to handle during those 2 years, Jose Angel Bolanos likewise received huge offers of bribes. This even went so far that an old woman tried to press 50 pesos into his hand so that he would release her son who had been arrested for a minor crime.

Surrounded by all this din, traveling to his home in Cienaga every weekend, disguised, so that he would not be murdered, Jose Angel Bolanos learned one day that he had not been reappointed, that he would no longer be a judge, that he was out in the street, and that his only asset was a Land Rover camper (the house in Cienaga on that dusty street is his wife's inheritance).

When he set up his own law office, he was very much unlike any of some of the other former judges along the coast who owned big ranches, ocean-front mansions, and apartments in the El Chico section of Bogota.

But Jose Angel Bolanos was happy; he had done his job; his beloved daughter Zoyla Mery was in senior high school now and he was an independent man who considered himself a good lawyer.

But his enemies were out to get him and they never forgave him. They were happy because they knew that Jose Angel Bolanos was no longer a judge and that he was now walking about unprotected like any other citizen.

All is Lost?

"Everybody was sure that something serious was going to happen to my father," said his son Fidel Camilo in Cienaga.

And in the hospital, the former judge said: "I believe that everything is lost. I believe that they all got away due to lack of evidence." He talked about all those whom he had sent to prison for more than 10 years during his tenure as judge.

Then he reviewed those past 10 years and said: "I do not know who among them could have done it, I cannot tell, but I must admit that they did a thorough job because they killed my daughter who was the apple of my eye--I loved her so much."

And he looked to the past again and said that some people had gotten away due to political influence while others had managed to get away due to lack of evidence. He was thinking of the tax cases, the phony retirements, the phony contracts and the drug traffickers.

"The government security forces know who the drug traffickers are, they know where they are, they know how they work, they know all about their life, but they do not dare grab them because that would mean killing the goose that laid the golden egg," he said.

He also made a somewhat polemic remark: "The Security Law disarmed the peasants, the honest people who were using their weapons to defend themselves but the mafia fellows continue to carry their arms, to shoot and to kill."

He fell silent, looked at his daughter's photo on the wall, and said: "And those mafia fellows were not shooting at government forces because they go around armed. They only shoot at our judges.

"Although you cannot ask martyrs to come out of the judicial branch, it is true that my wounds and the sacrifice of my daughter affect not only me but also all judges of Colombia," he said.

"This is a wide chasm which is now opening up in Colombian justice. Now we are heading into the times of terror. From here on in, judges, facing a powerless government, which neither supports nor protects them, are going to think twice before handing down a judgment. What will a judge think in the future when he gets a phone call and when they tell him that they are going to kill his son?" he says.

"Yes, the case involving my daughter and the cases in Medellin are a wide chasm that enables us to measure the full range of crime in Colombia. All it takes is a phone call or some shooting and judges will think twice before they rule," he pointed out.

"Arm our judges? What good would it do to give a judge a revolver--against the machinegun of a professional killer?" he asks.

And then he falls silent again. He stares at Zoyla Mery in the photo on the wall. He knows that, in addition to the pain resulting from his daughter's death, his wounds can cost him at least half a million pesos in hospital bills. And a former judge is not entitled to any social security even though he may have saved the country at least 2 billion pesos.

But then he rises from the bottom of his loneliness: "A judge is less protected than a police officer. I lost my daughter who was most important to me. But if they should reappoint me as judge, I would do the same thing all over again, I would jail the same criminals and I would be just as honest in implementing the law. I will never act contrary to what I consider to be cowardice because I have never been and never will be a coward."



Former judge Jose Angel Bolanos, who was shot seven times, and his daughter, Zoyla Mery, who was shot eight times and killed.

COLOMBIA

ALLEGED DRUGS 'CAPO' MURDERED IN LA PICOTA PRISON

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 5 Dec 80 Sec A p 12

[Text] Gonzalo Jimenez Panesso, described as one of the most notorious "capos" in the drug trafficking underworld operating in the country, was shot to death yesterday inside the La Picota prison.

The crime took place in block 7 of the aforementioned prison establishment, and was committed by Alberto Vasquez, aged 28, who is serving a sentence for a murder committed in Antioquia.

The antisocial individual used a Smith and Wesson revolver to kill Jimenez Panesso, and it is not known how the weapon was brought into the prison. He fired several shots with it at the victim, killing him instantly.

Mafia Vengeance

Jimenez Panesso had been confined in La Picota at the order of the 14th penal circuit court, in which he was tried for the crime of drug trafficking. His remains were legally removed by the Restrepo chief of police, while the perpetrator of the homicide remained isolated in one of the establishment's cells. Meanwhile the pertinent investigation was started, in an attempt to establish the motive for the crime, which might well be the result of vengeance plotted by other Mafia members.

As has already been noted, the murdered drug trafficker was regarded as one of the most important and active members of the organizations engaged in drug trafficking, and he had been tried on several occasions for that illegal activity.

First Escape

After being involved in the notorious La Mesa de Ruitoque case, in a location near Bucaramanga, where a cocaine processing laboratory was discovered, Jimenez Panesso was captured in Turbo with other individuals who had 300 kilograms of the alkaloid in their possession. At that time, the subject managed to escape; but that did not prevent his being sentenced to 3 years in prison, in absentia.

Converted Into a Tycoon

Through his activities heading a powerful drug trafficking organization, Jimenez Panesso amassed a large amount of capital, which enabled him to purchase the

Anaconda Hotel, in Leticia, for several million pesos, as well as several apartment houses in Bogota and other cities in the country.

Caught in Puerto Wilches

In early July of this year, the subject was captured on the La Esmeralda farm, near Fuerto Wilches, where he had set up another cocaine processing laboratory. There, Jimenez was caught, along with six other invididuals, and 250 kilograms of the alkaloid were seized and destroyed by officials of the Assistant Prosecutor's Office for the Judicial Police, which was responsible for the major blow against crime.

Escape and Recapture

Incarcerated in the jail of the aforementioned Santander municipality, within a few days the sly, elusive criminal managed to escape; however, 12 days later, on 17 July, he was spotted and recaptured in apartment 202 of building No 58-45, on Avenue 30 in Bogota, an apartment which he owned, as he did another very luxurious one at the intersection of Highway 10 and 82d Street.

On that occasion, the individual tried to put up resistance against the officials of the Prosecutor's Office, who were forced to fire several shots in the air and to relieve him of a revolver that he was carrying.

Jimenez was subsequently placed at the disposal of the aforementioned 14th penal circuit court, and was sent to the La Picota prison, where his criminal career came to an end yesterday.

It should be added that a brother of the murdered underworld figure, who had also been engaged in drug trafficking, was killed in Miami in the course of one of the "vendettas" that often occur among those international organizations.

It is also fitting to recall that Jimenez was associated with Alfonso Camacho Leyva, who was brought to trial a few days ago, with another individual, because a considerable amount of cocaine that he had brought from Leticia, was found in his possession. The latter is the Amazon port where Jimenez, after selling the Anaconda Hotel, had set up his center of supply for coca leaves or paste; in other words, the raw material for processing cocaine.



Gonzalo Jimenez Panesso, killed in La Picota

2909

COLOMBIA

ARMY STRIKES IN GUAJIRA, CESAR AND MAGDALENA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Nov 80 p 3-A

[Article by Jacquelin Donado]

[Text] Barranquilla, 10 Nov--In its frontal attack on gangs of drug traffickers operating along the Atlantic Coast, the army this weekend managed to grab many millions worth of smuggled marihuana, vehicles, and equipment; it also captured nine persons presumably connected with that activity.

The army confiscated 504 packages of marihuana whose value on the black market is estimated at something like 40 million pesos, plus about 10 millions in vehicles and equipment.

The operations were carried out by elements of the Cordoba and Rondon battalions in the departments of Guajira, El Cesar, and Magdalena.

Eduardo Gonzalez Perez, Eduardo Olaya, Manuel Cuellar Saltarin, Aristobulo Arias Vence, and Robinson Pertuz Pertuz were captured on the road from Santa Marta to Cienaga; in two vehicles they were carrying 153 packages of marihuana which apparently were to be picked up by an airplane. They also confiscated the F-600 truck with license plate PK6745, where the cargo was being carried, plus a latemodel Toyota, used by the owners of the cargo, and a current generator plus a radio.

Benjamin Vega, Luis Alberto Murillo, and Carlos Galindo were arrested in the town of Curumani, jurisdiction of Jagua de Ibirico (Cesar); hidden in their personal equipment, they were carrying 1,000 kilograms of marihuana and they were traveling in a vehicle with license plate XV5211.

Mario Enrique Perez was arrested in Hatonuevo, in the jurisdiction of Cuestecita; he was traveling in a pickup truck with Venezuelan license plates, Lav861, with 22 packages of "grass."

The other operations yielded only abandoned vehicles and marihuana. In the town of Camarones, the soldiers found 70 packages of marihuana in a truck with Venezuelan license plates TAS591 and a Nissan camper EAPP961 parked in a clearing, which presumably was used as an airstrip.

A truck, with license plates TP6007, containing 143 packages of marihuana, was found abandoned in Cienaga.

The last operation was carried out along the Caribbean main highway, near Mingue, where a pickup truck with 25 packages of marihuana was found.

5058

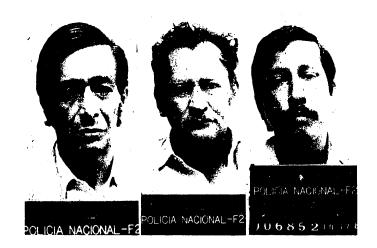
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COLOMBIA

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN BOGOTA BY F-2 AGENTS

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Nov 80 p 9-A

[Text] A gang involved in narcotics traffic was nabbed by F-2 agents south of Bogota; 5,327 grams of drugs and three vehicles were confiscated. The gangsters arrested are, reading from left to right, Alberto Suarez, Carlos Angel Neira Hurtado, and Clemente Perez Camacho. At 26-68 South 10th Avenue, agents found the vehicles used by the traffickers which included an orange-colored 1970 Mustang with license number AI-1763, a red 1979 [vehicle] with license number GP-6460, and a brown 1980 Datsun with license number AM-3472.



COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--Pasto, 17 Dec--F-2 units seized 4 kilograms of cocaine with a high degree of purity, the value of which amounted to 8 million pesos. The drugs were transported in a private camper arriving from the town of San Miguel, in the intendency of Putumayo. The authorities identified the presumed drug traffickers as Jairo Lopez Piedrahita and Luis Alberto Ospina Vargas. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Dec 80 Sec A p 6] 2909

BARRANQUILLA MARIHUANA SEIZURE DESCRIBED--Barranquilla--Millions in smuggled marihuana were confiscated in Guajira by special units of the 2nd Brigade minutes prior to the takeoff of a modern aircraft which was to carry the drugs abroad. This happened at a place called "La Teta," located in Upper Guajira. On arriving at the place, the soldiers found a modern DC-3 aircraft, with United States registration number N-21-11N, carrying 5 tons of "grass." There was also a small dump truck which minutes earlier had carried the smuggled goods, plus three pickup trucks which apparently were used by the cargo's owners. The soldiers managed to capture nine individuals who were taken to the Rondon Battalion, in Santa Marta, where the investigation will be conducted. The load of "grass," plus the value of the vehicles and the aircraft, exceeds the sum of 150 million pesos, according to authorities. [Text] [Bugota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Nov 80 p 9-A] 5058

MEMBERS OF HEROIN TRAFFICKING RING CAPTURED, INVESTIGATED

Heroin Seized

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 28 Nov 80 Sec E p 1

[Text] Yesterday, Federal Judicial Police agents under orders from Comdr Jorge Octavio Esquinca confiscated heroin worth 1,131,600 pesos on the black market.

They also arrested five individuals, namely: Hector Marines Herrera, Jose Prado Navarrete, Felipe Bernal Soto, Cruz Javier Frayre and Jose Alberto Botta Echavarri, the latter of whom has a record of crimes against health and was the one with the drugs in his possession.

It all began on 25 November when a car in which Marines Herrera, Prado Navarrete and Bernal Soto were riding was stopped at the corner of 20 de Noviembre and Peru Streets. Subsequently, Cruz Javier Frayre was arrested.

The four men were riding in a yellow 1972 Dodge car, without license plates, owned by Marines Herrera.

At the time that the Federal Judicial Police agents apprehended the addicts, Frayre who was inhaling the drug attempted to conceal something with his body.

Then it was learned that he had 10 small packages in the back seat of the car; that is, a "dose" of the drug that was being consumed.

When the first three made their statement, they said that Frayre had invited them to take a "gallazo," that is, to consume the heroin; but this did not occur, because they were captured.

Frayre himself claimed to have been addicted to the drug for years.

When questioned more closely, he said that he purchased the drugs from Jose Alberto Botta Echavarri, who sold them to him for \$120 per gram.

Then he "cut" them; in other words, he made several small packages from the gram, the amount for a dose.

Frayre said that he had bought the drugs from Botta Echavarri on 10 occasions.

The next day, Botta Echavarri, alias "El Guero Bottas," was arrested, and they confiscated from his residence at No 1164 Plan de Ayala and Venezuela Streets a suitcase which contained two plastic bags filled with 410 grams of heroin.

The latter, upon being captured, refused to disclose the name of the person from whom he bought the drugs which he later sold to addicts.

In the house in which Botta Echevarri had the heroin, they also discovered two weapons, a 45 caliber pistol and a Rugger brand revolver, as well as a 25-caliber squad type weapon without ammunition.

The five individuals in custody were booked yesterday, and were immediately placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry agent.

Accomplices' Identity Withheld

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 29 Nov 80 Sec E p 1

[Text] The investigation which put the clever drug trafficker, Jose Alberto Botta Echevarri, better known as "El Guero Botta," behind bars, is incomplete.

He refused flatly, and of course out of fear of losing his life, to state the name of the person or persons who were supplying him with the heroin which he, in turn, was selling to scores of local and El Paso addicts.

An agent of the Federal Judicial Police remarked that he could not be "pressed" in any way because, like all traffickers, he is a "loud-mouth" and a complete coward.

If only a hand is lifted in front of them, they go to the second district judge to cry, double up and complain of torture and beatings which they claim to have been given by their captors to make them confess, whereas it is a well-known fact that they are traffickers as much as anyone.

Comdr Octavio Esquinca said: "We were expecting to follow the trail from there, and find out where at least one of the ringleaders of the drug traffic is located."

But "El Botta" did not give any clue; he refused to disclose names.

He only agreed, confessed and attested in his statements that he was the owner of 410 grams of heroin found in his house located between Plan de Ayala and Venezuela Streets.

He also admitted to having supplied the 10 grams found in the possession of the addicts Hector Martinez Herrera, Jose Prado Navarrete, Felipe Bernal Soto and Cruz Javier Frayre, who were arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents as they were injecting themselves with the drug in a Dodge car.

Two Remanded

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 5 Dec 80 Sec E p 6

[Text] Jose Alberto Botta Echavarri and Cruz Javier Frayre were remanded to the second district court by the Federal Public Ministry agency for crimes against

health. They are charged with being presumed guilty of possession and trafficking of hard drugs, because 10 "bags," the equivalent of 10 doses, were found in their possession. There is another portion consisting of 400 grams, but the health center laboratories were unable to determine whether it was actually heroin, because there is no special equipment to make the analysis. The assistant Federal Public Ministry agent, Omar Garcia Garza, announced that the other three persons charged in this case of hard drug trafficking, Hector Marines Herrera, Jose Prado Navarrete and Felipe Bernal Soto, were released, because it was found that they were not implicated in the matter. Garcia Garza explained that the laboratories in this town could not ascertain whether the bags found in Botta Echaverri's residence actually contained heroin. The records remained open, because evidence was sent to the capital of the republic, to be analyzed there. The two individuals in custody, accused of drug trafficking, were placed at the disposal of the second district court yesterday.





Jose Alberto Botta Echaverri, in whose house Federal Judicial Police agents found 410 grams of heroin worth over a million pesos, was arrested with Hector Marines Herrera, Cruz Javier Frayre, Jose Prado Navarrete and Felipe Bernal Soto. "El Guero" Botta was selling each gram of heroin for \$120.

cso: 5330

SUCCESS OF 'OPERATION CONDOR' IN DRUG REDUCTION CLAIMED

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 29 Nov 80 Sec F p 1

[Text] Pista el Zorrillo, Guadalupe y Calvo, 28 Nov--The planting, cultivation harvesting, trafficking and exporting of drugs in the state have been reduced 97 percent.

Ten local deputies were briefed on the operation of the permanent campaign against drugs, at the invitation of Antonio Quezada Fornelli, agent of the Federal Public Ministry.

The National Army's backing has been decisive in combating the crops and those growing them.

The permanent campaign against drugs is divided into 13 coordinated zones in the country, and its action is concentrated on the West Sierra Madre mountain range.

The campaign began in 1976, and is based on the development of infrastructure programs to enable the farmers to engage in legal work.

Initially, the plantations were destroyed by cutting the plants; now, air sprinkler systems are used, with the most advanced techniques, as well as authorized herbicides the ecological impact of which is minimal.

The Best Nonmilitarized Equipment in Latin America

The technical backup for the campaign, primarily with respect to communications and aircraft, has given the Office of the Attorney General the largest inonmilitarized equipment in Latin America.

There are 90 aircraft on 16 bases working on the elimination of the drug traffic, putting in 3,000 hours of flying per month, with 130 pilots and 340 technicians who provide maintenance for the equipment.

The crops are detected by means of an electro-optical system, with processing by computers, which makes it possible to determine the site on which they are located, and the results after the fumigation.

The communications network includes 63 radio stations in a computed circuit and with frequencies that make contact possible with the National Defense Secretariat and the Navy.

They Fumigate Plantations

Yesterday, helicopters from the Attorney General's Office fumigated several plantations located in San Jose, in the municipality of Guadalupe y Calvo, maneuvers which were observed by the state legislators.

2909

DRUG ADDICTION AMONG YOUTH IN CHIHUAHUA REPORTED SERIOUS

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 29 Nov 80 p 7

[Text] The problem of drug addiction and the use of toxic inhalants is quite serious in Chihuahua, but not drug trafficking or the growing of drugs, according to the statements made by the local deputies from that state to EL SOL DE SINALOA, in an interview which they held in Surutato yesterday.

The deputy and teacher Alberto Ramirez claimed that the problem being experienced in that neighboring state is serious, because the locations in which the youth are exposed to drugs are the schools on the intermediate-upper and upper levels; and there has been no success to date in putting an end to that problem, which continues to be worse each day.

Added to this is the irresponsibility of merchants, who have refused to comply with the requests made by the authorities, arguing that free trade should not be hampered, and thus enabling unscrupulous individuals to purchase volatile products so as to resell them to the youth.

When he was questioned about the existing legislation in this regard in Chihuahua, he replied flatly that it was nonexistent, and that it was known that some apprehension is present concerning the matter. It has even been suggested that some substance be added to all those products to prevent their being used for any purpose other than that for which they were invented.

Deputy Oscar Martinez Valderrama, for his part, told this morning paper that the problem is particularly serious in locations such as Ciudad Juarez, which is a troublesome area owing to the excessive floating population that it has as a result of being one of the entrance points to the neighboring country to the north.

He explained that the fixed population in that area consists of about a million inhabitants, but the constant coming and going of individuals from the southern part of the state, seeking to enter the United States, has precluded proper population control, and has also allowed the increase of drug addiction to occur with greater intensity.

2909 CSO: 5330

37

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN SINALOA--Mexico City, 25 Nov (OEM)--The Federal Judicial Police seized heroin worth approximately 10 million pesos in four different clandestine laboratories in Sinaloa, and also arrested five persons. Adrian Medina Villa, Javier Tamayo Angulo, Hector Acosta Molina and Manuel Cruz Beltran were arrested at the La Juanilla and El Seco farms, in the Los Esmeriles mine and in the town of Culiacan, respectively. The confiscated drugs consisted of the following: 110 grams of opium gum, 1 kilogram of powder base for cutting heroin, 27 kilograms of marihuana, half a kilogram of poppy seed, 100 grams of heroin. Also seized were two 30-30 and 30 Ml caliber rifles, a 1976 Ford car with license plates 815-ZBN and a 1978 Combi model pickup truck with Sinaloa license plates VDZ-827. The confiscated drugs were found in four clandestine laboratories, in which many acids and glass equipment for processing drugs were also discovered. The three farms were located in the municipality of Badiraguato, Sinaloa, and had been operating for years without being detected by anyone. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 26 Nov 80 Sec C p 3] 2909

MAURITIUS

ALARMING NUMBER OF DRUG ADDICTS REPORTED

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 12 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] "There are some 25,000 potential drug addicts in Mauritius," said Dr Charles Yip Tong, psychiatrist and head of the committee sponsored by the Ministry of Education to investigate the causes for the rise in drug use and make recommendations on measures to prevent its spread. This rise has already reached the point where drug use can be considered a danger to the entire society and must be combated vigorously.

In this light, the town of Port Iouis held a forum on drugs on 10 September 1980 at the Port Iouis theater; Dr Yip Tong, Michel Dedans, a journalist; Heeralall Bhugaloo, high school principal; Freddy Sakir, psychologist and Father Maurice Labour participated. The forum was chaired by Mr P. Kistnen, chairman of the committee for the social well-being of Port Iouis.

Dr Charles Yip Tong and Freddy Sakir spoke on the reasons for the increased drug use, its effects on the psyche and the personality of drug addicts.

In turn, Dedans and Bhugaloo forcefully emphasized the authorities' responsibility for the deteriorating social situation in Mauritius. They felt "it is inconceivable that traffickers operate with impunity."

"Confronted with the authorities' passive attitude, those who truly wish to fight the drug problem must act," stated Mr Dedans. Mr Ehugaloo added, "We must have the courage to hold protest marches."

An appeal was also made to drug addicts and young people in general to make statements before the Yip Tong committee on drugs.

When the committee completes its work, it hopes to give authorities and young people in general proposals on ways to combat the drug problem.

The Yip Tong committee, which has already begun its work, will listen to drug addicts wishing to escape this infernal cycle and to anyone who can identify drug networks. The anonymity of these individuals will be protected.

The committee will make recommendations after investigating the social milieu and environment of drug addicts to get to the source and thus detect potential drug problems.

The government has decided to set up a special section (Drugs Addict Unit) in the Brown Sequard Hospital to care for drug addicts. This section will handle all forms of intoxication: nicotine poisoning, alcoholism and drug dependency. This project is part of the biennial development plan published this week.

9479

NAM.

WIDESPREAD INCREASE IN DRUG TRAFFICKING NOTED

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 27 Nov 80 p 1

[Text] Marijuana is now being smuggled in the Southwest in great quantities and in an organized manner. The people responsible for this form illegal organizations and the result of this is that violations of the laws on narcotics have become more widespread in the Southwest.

According to the procurator general for the Southwest, Don Brunette, there are strong indications that violations of the law on narcotics are on the increase in the Southwest. Even as recently as last year official figures indicated that there was an increase in marijuana cases.

"We are now starting to get cases in the Southwest which we have never noted before. These are cases involving stronger narcotics such as the use of pills," stated Brunette.

According to him, it is beginning to look as if the use of narcotics is spreading at a greater rate.

There have even been cases of violations of the law on drugs in military camps of the Southwest.

"Smuggling of narcotics is always organized. In most instances they are transported in vehicles and they even originate from ships and in nearly all instances there is an organization involved," said Brunette.

He stated that it is presumed that the marijuana which is being distributed in the Southwest is being smuggled here from Natal and other parts of the republic.

He went on to say that: "For example, in the Cape and in Natal the smuggling of marijuana is a highly organized industry. However it is beginning to appear that this evil may be showing its head in the Southwest as well, though not in the same scale as in the republic.

"It is a known fact that the growing conditions for marijuana are not favorable in the Southwest, therefore it has to be smuggled here."

According to Brunette it would appear from conviction records in courts that the rate of crime is on the increase in the Southwest.

"I have no doubts at all that there was an increase in the crime rate this year. However, to a large degree this was due to an increase in the population. The natural growth of crime as a result of this increase is usually between 10 and 15 percent."

FRANCE

DRUG ABUSE INCREASES, POLICE FEAR NEW FRENCH CONNECTION

Small Villages Affected

Paris LE FIGARO in French 26 Dec 80 p 22

[Article by Jocelyn Petitpas: "From Goat's Milk Cheese to Marihuana"]

[Text] Commenting on the 1979 crime statistics in France, Maurice Bouvier, central director of the PJ [Criminal Investigation Police] said to us recently, "While the development of terrorism and violence are disturbing to me, what I find particularly serious is the widespread increase in drug addiction." This statement by the head of the PJ is supported by figures that show the consumption of drugs has increased by 60 percent in 1 year (260 percent in 10 years). This is a large increase. And it is already a known fact that this increase has continued at a spectacular rate throughout 1980 as well. "Drugs are now present everywhere, in the cities and in small villages, even the most remote," affirms Inspector General Francois Le Mouel, in charge of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Traffic. The main users are in the 18-25 year age group. Leading (and by far) the list of drugs being used are: Hashish, heroin and cocaine and their derivatives. Drugs present everywhere? Yes, everywhere.

Condom (Gers) consists of 8,016 inhabitants around a cathedral where Bossuet had delivered some of his sermons. It is a small sub-prefecture of a remote province. It is in the home of Armagnac, foie gras, good living and the rasping accent, halfway between two regional capitals: Toulouse and Bordeaux. It is a quiet, uneventful town, far from any major highways and with no SNCF [French National Railroads] station of its own. Here, at pousse-rapiere time--the Gascon aperitif: a "finger" of Armagnac brandy in a glass of light white wine--the sole topic of conversation is rugby. Rugby, the forthcoming "bandas" festival, which brings to Condom thousands of sightseers, and the Musketeer Brotherhood Chapter, which brings together every September, under the cloisters, a few crowned heads and celebrities from all over the world, who will then extol the virtues of Armagnac brandy and the charm of d'Artagnan's native region.

Drugs are not talked about. These, if one is to believe the inhabitants of Condom, are the problem of the large cities. "Thank Heaven, our youth is spared. We are far away from everything," I was told by my first interlocutor at the Cafe

des Sports near the hall where the foie gras fair was being held that day. "Our isolation safeguards us from that kind of scourge." Indeed...

Discreet Silence

Four days of inquiry in a region and village selected at random for a report have revealed that the countryside is also in its turn contaminated. Nothing alarming; but drugs are definitely there, even though they are not (yet) a source of great worry: a serious incident 1 year ago, followed by two others not of the same magnitude, several "joints" exchanged among high-school students, some cannabis plants discovered in a neighboring village, all enveloped in a discreet silence. For, in the eyes of the people here, to use drugs is a shameful illness, and to sell a few grams of powder: an incident. "One not worth getting worked up over, and useless and out of place to talk about," they say.

Officially, drugs came to Condom toward the end of 1979. They came from Amsterdam where Bruno, 19, son of a highly respected family, had gone to visit some Dutch friends. Bruno, who had already taken part in several "smoke-ins"--he later admitted this -- brought back some 50 LSD tablets. Loose talk by one of his companions led the gendarmes to discover the new-born traffic. Bruno was imprisoned for 1 month. But he will never know the verdict of his judges. He was killed in an automobile accident 6 months later, 2 weeks before his trial. "My son was neither an addict nor a pusher," says his mother today. "He did that to impress his friends." For bravado rather than desire. Always the same start. The same web.

Mrs Casanova, headmistress of the Bossuet Lycee (600 students, 200 of whom are resident students), a very liberal principal—a little too liberal for some parents—says, "I have had a few little problems, but I have handled them on a case by case basis with the students involved and their families. Without any outside meddling."

For her, in sum, there is no need to alert the gendarmes because of a few "joints of 'H'" smoked just for a lark. Everything is taken care of from within. "Last year," she says, "one of my students was playing around with the pushers. I threatened to fail him and he ceased his activities."

The Communes

Although drugs appear to be an unknown, or almost unknown, topic among parents in Condom, this is not the case among their offspring. The problem involves the young, but they talk about it only among themselves. "To the extent that at the school library the books most in demand are those on drugs and their dangers." Mrs Casanova is glad of this but regrets that the Academy furnishes her only outdated documents.

Last summer, LSD tablets and some "joints" being carried in school satchels were seized, and some cannabis plants were discovered and destroyed, by the gendarmes; the planter, a swimming instructor in the region, was arrested. Adjutant Yves

Ricaud, deputy to the captain commanding the company of gendarmerie at Condom, states that the advent of drugs there came with the settling in of certain communes. "Under ecological pretenses, they come and settle down in a remote and rural department. They start out by dealing in goat's milk cheese, but quickly corrupt the youth of the region with marihuana cigarettes." This has been true in Gers, it has been true also in Ariege, in Lozere and elsewhere.

These "return-to-nature communes" are not the only ones responsible. Mr Ricaud says, "For our youth, Toulouse automatically follows the lycee. And there, in the Place Wilson and Capitole cafes, "H" can be easily had. They buy a little for a taste, then send some to Condom to make a hit with their former school buddies."

"Nothing serious for the moment," says Mayor Abel Abeille, "but we must be vigilant, for, sickness quickly becomes an epidemic." And Condom is not the exception. On the contrary, it is an example of the scourge of the 20th century, which every day gains additional terrain.

The malady is indeed spreading rapidly, very rapidly, despite all the steps and measures that have been taken against it over the past several years. In France, drug use increased by 60.8 percent in 1979 over 1978. There were 117 deaths from overdoses during the same year of 1979 (156 as of November 1980), whereas, in 1974, (only!) 10,810 traffickers were arrested, 3,300 users booked, and 5,231 kilos of cannabis in various forms seized by customs and the air police (6,615 kilos as of 1 December 1980) as compared with 1,280 in 1978. And Mr Le Mouet's narcotics brigade has announced that during the first 10 months of 1980, more heroin has already been seized than during the entire preceding 3 years.

Heroin More Widely Used

Paris LE FIGARO in French 27-28 Dec 80 p 6

[Article by Jocelyn Petitpas: "Istambul: The Heroin Capital"]

[Text] When the French police, in 1970, dismantled what was then known as the "French Connection," they won a battle; but they did not win the war. New networks and new channels very quickly replaced it. There has been, there still is, the "ant" traffic, those thousands of "small-fry" runners who come through occasionally, carrying their few grams of heroin or a few slabs of "H" from their trip to the Far East or to North Africa. Today, the French Connection is beginning to be reconstituted. There is also the Chinese Connection based in Hong Kong, and more recently the Turkish network. Despite the efforts of all the world's police, the drug trade is still flourishing.

Hashish is being sold almost openly in the Latin Quarter at the approaches to Place Saint-Michel. In Amsterdam, heroin is being sold in the streets (or virtually so) in certain disreputable quarters. Although the most commonly used drug is still cannabis in resin or herb form, coming from the Middle East, Morocco

and most recently from Black Africa, heroin has made a veritable breakthrough. According to Mr Le Mouet, head of the narcotics brigade, "In France, the addicts are going in more and more for the "hard" drugs. And nine times out of ten, it is heroin."

An Inaccessible Region

Heroin from the Far East, particularly from the poppy fields of the only too well known "Golden Triangle," where Thailand, Laos and Burma meet, supplied, still in 1976, 97 percent of the world market. According to Walter Leamy, top American official in the Interpol organization's worldwide fight against the drug traffic, "The end of the Vietnam War has put an end to that supremacy. Of course, opium from Thailand continues to come across the borders, and will continue doing so for some time, especially since an exceptional harvest is foreseen for 1981: 700 tons versus 240 tons last year owing to the drought; however, the near East and Middle East now have the monopoly. In 1980, 80 percent of the heroin consumed has come from those countries that are currently experiencing political difficulties, like Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon and Turkey." Because of either war or destabilization, these countries are no longer able to exercise effective control over the cultivation of poppies and the opium trade.

Walter Leamy cites this fact: "There exist on the shores of the Mediterranean, in a region that encompasses parts of four countries—Iran, Syria, Lebanon and Turkey—hundreds of clandestine laboratories that supply most of the heroin being consumed." Of course, a substantial quantity still comes from the Far East, but "it is from the above region, which is practically inaccessible at present for many reasons, that most of the consumption in Europe and the United States is being supplied." How is it being channeled? "More and more via highway and railroad routes, less and less via the airways," says Walter Leamy. Tightened airport controls have undoubtedly had something to do with this.

Without underestimating the fact that after having prohibited the cultivation, the Turkish government—for economic reasons—decided to agaim authorize it, Turkey's poppy fields are not the main problem. Owing to its geographic situation and its political instability, Turkey has become a drug traffic hub. It all goes through Istambul. It is the hub and the principal purveyor by way of its tens of thousands of nationals living in various European countries.

The powder is being carried through in baggage and freight shipments of other merchandise. It is impossible to search everything, impossible to have it all sniffed out by dogs especially trained for the purpose. It is also being carried in personal clothing. In sum, in a thousand and one ways, the traffickers are displaying a great deal of imagination. Like the runner who, recently, had sealed his "load" in a protective covering, then swallowed it. The covering gave way. He died. Everyone, however, does not take such intensive risks. The less so since they are thoroughly familiar with the "difficult byways" and those by way of which they run little risk of being caught. Thus, those Eastern countries that have long preferred to ignore the drug phenomenon—they are beginning only

now to recognize it—are privileged "transits," particularly Bulgaria and East Germany. Runners debark in East Berlin from an Aeroflot plane arriving from a Middle Eastern capital, and proceed to West Germany by train. Mr Leamy says: "This has now become the rule and there is nothing we can do about it inasmuch as the East European countries are not members of Interpol."

'Marseilles Chemists' and the Mafia

The Turkish network and the Chinese of Hong Kong are controlling and supplying the Amsterdam market and the "Marseilles chemists," who are trying to reestablish the French Connection. If one is to believe Dick Schoneveld, head of the Dutch narcotics service, "This famous French supply network was put back in operation by the very same persons who served prison terms when it was dismantled in 1970." He made this statement in Chiang Mai (Thailand), where the European Drugs Conference was held toward the end of November, which was attended by representatives from 23 countries, in the persons of heads of their specialized services in the fight against traffickers.

Inspector General Le Mouel, who attended it and who had been one of the key operatives in that dismantling, believes the French Connection has indeed been reactivated by an alliance among French traffickers, the former "Marseilles chemists" and the Mafia. And the political problems currently afflicting Italy have facilitated the establishment of these new laboratories on Italian soil, in the Milan area and in Sicily.

"The uncovering, in 1979 and in 1980, of two clandestine laboratories at La Ciotat (Bouches-du-Rhone) and at Chambon-sur-Lignon (Haute-Loire) discouraged these French Connection oldtimers, whereupon they allied themselves with the Mafia traffickers. This was subsequently confirmed by the recent discovery of three large laboratories at San Remo, Milan and Palermo. All the chemists involved were French members of the Marseilles-Cote d'Azur gang."

.Countermeasures Told

Paris LE FIGARO in French 29 Dec 80 p 8

[Article by Jocelyn Petitpas: "Dikes Against the Tide"]

[Text] "The use of drugs is increasing in France; this is borne out by the figures. But let us not overdramatize the fact. This increase is not massive in character." Very moderate as always in her statements, Mrs Monique Pelletier, minister for the condition of women, officially responsible since February 1980 for coordinating the fight against drug addiction, feels that to combat this increase the first requirement is a harsh repression of the traffic. "It is the availability of the drug that brings about the increase in demand. If the drug were unavailable or hard to come by, there would be less addicts."

In the opinion of Walter Leamy, the top American official in Interpol for the fight against traffickers, this repression is resulting in nothing more than arresting and condemning a few small-fry runners: "The situation," he says, "is very serious—less so in France than in the United States, in Holland and in the FRG (600 deaths from overdoses in 1979, 80 of which in the city of Berlin alone), and police everywhere are wasting their time catching the little traffickers. To more effectively repress the traffic, it would pay to put a closer watch over the activities of certain European and American big businessmen who are making substantial sums in the import—export trade. The fact is we know who the big traffickers are. But working our way up the network to reach them, to nail them, is such a complex matter that investigations are never, or hardly ever, successful." The "bigwigs" have been very able to shelter themselves.

The fact is that of 810 traffickers arrested in France in 1979, the vast majority were occasional runners, very few were professionals, and of the latter, all were "peons."

No Long-Term Objectives

The traffic must be fought against, and preventive measures taken against the use of drugs, all drugs without exception. "No distinction must be drawn between substances. They are all dangerous in varying degrees. There is no innocuous drug." She aims this statement at those who seek and labor to de-penalize soft drugs such as hashish.

Of the 11 ministries concerned, five are more so than the others: Interior, Armed Forces (which heads the Gendarmerie), Justice, Education, Public Health. For 1 year now, Mrs Pelletier has been striving to bring about a concerted drive. "No long-term objectives," she says, "for the phenomenon is in constant development. What we need is to better coordinate our efforts, not to try to settle the problem once and for all, but to stem its advance. That in itself would be a major victory." It is difficult to draw up an initial balance sheet of the coordination effort; however, according to the minister for the condition of women, "The 35-percent increase in seizures of drugs and in the number of traffickers and users booked is evidence of the effectiveness of the fight we are waging." To this is being said in the Quai des Orfevres, at the old "Mondaine": "Above all, it shows that drug use has increased considerably."

Many measures have been put into effect recently. The Ministry of Interior has converted some former minors brigades into "narcotics brigades," particularly in the Parisian departments, it has created a headquarters "listening post" in Bangkok for the repression of the illicit drug traffic, and it has trained specialized police agents. Currently, there are 214 civil service personnel in Mr Le Mouel's services, some 100 specialists, and 485 inspectors who are being used part-time in the city police forces. The rural sector is not being spared: The gendarmes are also receiving specialized training. The description of a cannabis plant is one of the questions that may be put to them in an examination. The Customs Service, which is doing a considerable job to judge by the large quantities being seized, is training its agents to "single out" runners more effectively, so as to avoid as many systematic searches as possible, which in airports and at border points can create monstrous bottlenecks.

Information a Priority

At the juridical level, there are now specialized magistrates in all the major jurisdictions, for, according to Mrs Pelletier, "Judges should render their decisions in accordance with the personality and behavior of the drug offender, which is permitted by the Law of 1970. It is obviously not appropriate to deal in the same manner with a young user as with a trafficker." Because she considers that drugs must be addressed as a social problem among others, she takes a stand as regards information. "Drugs are neither a fatality nor a mysterious illness. And only through complete knowledge can we fight effectively against something. It is not a matter, however, of developing identical information for the public as a whole. Drugs are not tobacco. Every day adds strength to my conviction that information must be properly adapted. Any and all information must not be made available to any and all persons. There are youths who do not need to be taught about drugs because they have no interest in them." Hence, the nonobligation being placed on the "Health Clubs," which have been formed in the lycees, to deal with the drug problem. In Monique Pelletier's view, action must be coordinated at all levels. "The teachers, the head of the district association for youths in trouble, the doctor, the police superintendent, must all know each other, must get together and cooperate with each other. It is the most effective means for combating drug addiction. Drugs are the concern of all." Lastly, one of the steps to be taken as rapidly as possible is: the regulation of the sale of ether in pharmacies. This is a proposed objective that Mrs Pelletier will submit to Parliament.

Repression, prevention, information, coordination of effort and treating drug addicts to help them achieve rehabilitation: Many associations being subsidized entirely or in part by the state or local collectivities are carrying on a major effort in this sense. But there are no miracles. Be it at the Marmottan Hospital, Dr Olivenstein's services where heroin addicts are being treated, Dr Brule's therapeutic chain, in the Yvelines, or at Dr Francis Curtet's "Trait d'union," which "rehabilitates" addicts during their imprisonment and after their release from prison, the percentage of drug addicts definitely withdrawn from addiction is small. Discouragingly small: between 10 and 20 percent. "The failure rate is high, but even were only one to be saved in ten, perseverance is indispensable," says Dr Curtet. "Yes, I think it is worthwhile," adds Jean-Marc, son of a kinestherapist in Sarcelles (8 months of prison and 4 years of withdrawal from heroin), saved from his artificial paradise through the efforts of the "Trait d'union."

ITALY

TWELVE ARRESTED IN ANTIDRUG BLITZ IN SOUTH

Bari LA GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO in Italian 14 Nov 80 pp 1, 18

[Article by Elio Matarrese: "Antidrug Blitz From Bari to Brindisi"]

[Text] A noisy antidrug blitz, which burst forth simultaneously at dawn yesterday in Bari, Fasano, Polignano and Brindisi, after 8 months of investigations and surveillance, led to the arrest of 12 people. The police of the customs branch believe that they have inflicted the greatest blow to the drug traffic in Apulia. The organization was active from Brindisi to Fasano and Bari. They are the largest centers of this traffic, which during the last few months had grown enormously, and it had ramifications in other regions.

Those arrested are all accused of associating for criminal purposes, trafficking, possession and sale of drugs. Almost all have previous records; among them, however, there are a well-known businessman from Bari, with no previous record, and a girl, also from Bari, who is a leftist extremist awaiting trial for subversive association and participation in an armed gang.

All were arrested on a special warrant from the deputy public prosecutor of Bari, Dr Vito Savino, who directed the operation. Those arrested are: Luigi Antonio Galluzzi, 25, born in Sao Paolo, Brazil, living in Polignano a Mare, 7 Via Magnisi, the owner of a boutique; Marina Carollo, 25, from Lugo di Vicenza, Galluzzi's girlfriend, who lives with him and is a known drug addict; Giuseppe d'Onofrio, 26, from Fasano, living at 5 Via Angiulli, unemployed; Isabella Leone, 24, also from Fasano, living at 6 Via Cesareo; Francesco Cianciola, 61, the businessman from Bari with no record, very well known in town circles, the owner of a duty-free shop in the port section, a contractor for work on ships in transit, residing at 159 A Via Dalmazia; Francesco Mancini, a 35-year-old smuggler from Fasano, called Ciccio, living at 275 Via Noma; Francesco Coppola, a 30-year-old from Carmiano, living in Brindisi at 51 Via Pastrengo, unemployed with a previous record for smuggling; Gennaro de Angelis, 25, from Fasano, 8 Via Mignozzi, a merchant; Marco de Carlo, 27, from Fasano, 104 Via Goito, unemployed; Mario Ruggeri, another well-known smuggler from Fasano, 27, called Mariolino il canotto, 88 Via Mignozzi; Gaetano Masiello, 29, from Bari, residing at 102 Via Giulio Petroni, one of the biggest consumer-dealers in heroin, known to the police; Francesca Ventricelli, 27, from Bari, living in Piazza Carabellese, the leftist extremist. Recently having joined the ranks of the Nazi-Maoists, Ventricelli will be tried in December at the Bari Assizes court on the charge of subversive association (in her apartment they found subversive propaganda material) and participation in an armed gang.

The entire operation was carried out simultaneously and it was concluded at 0400 hours yesterday. In the apartments of those arrested no large quantities of drugs were found. But that was not the principal aim of the broad raid. The police wanted to capture simultaneously the leaders of the organization. This morning they will be arraigned by Dr Savino. The magistrate will interrogate them in the Bari prison, where they are being held.

Now the investigation is probably moving on to another level. They are trying to ascertain the links between this organization and other gangs (they keep speaking of the dangerous Neapolitan gang, which is said to have invested hundreds of millions on the Apulia markets). Nothing leaks out officially because the entire investigation is being conducted secretly. Dr Savino limited himself to saying: "We have gathered very compromising evidence against the 12 people arrested, which will be made public at the time of the trial. I cannot add anything else."

Even if the task awaiting the police remains lengthy and difficult, a major result has already been achieved. The terminal of this traffic—according to many sources—was Bari. "Bari is drowning in drugs," the police said several days ago, "there are so many arriving, probably from Brindisi." Now, the "powder that kills" should not be easy to find for some time.

The drugs--great quantities of heroin in a pure, or almost pure, state--arrived in Brindisi on ships which had been loaded in ports of the East. Some drugs were placed on the Apulia market by the Fasano gang, the rest were sent to northern cities. Thus, there was confirmation of the suspicions of the investigators who believe Brindisi and Bari are the southern cities most involved in the heroin traffic (the other base is said to be Genoa).

The Fasano gang had played a major role in the influx of heroin into Bari. "Luis Galluzzi, D'Onofrio and Coppola were supposedly the kingpins in the traffic. When the drugs arrived in the city, other people went into action. One of them is said to be—according to the police—the same Francesco Cianciola, wealthy businessman, millionaire, someone above suspicion, who may have been caught up and involved because of his friendship with Luis Galluzzi. (Another not so irrelevant detail is that Galluzzi and his girlfriend Mariera Carollo were arrested at Cianciola's villa, on the coast south of Bari. It is certain that the Bari businessman frequently entertained the two.) The heroin entered Bari through the Corso Cavour—Via Imbriani neighborhood. There the dealers met with the retailers and with the addicts, who from then on were completely under the thumb of the organization. But why did the blitz begin only yesterday?

The police "were working" on the drug problem for many months, approximately since March. Shadowing and investigations in cooperation with the Brindisi Group ascertained that the drug traffic was increasing excessively.

So as not to compromise the result of the inquiries, the Rome antidrug center was contacted and it sent to Fasano an undercover agent, a long-haired brigadier, who in a few days managed to gain the confidence of the organization. The agent arranged a big "deal." Pretending to be the emissary from another organization he succeeded in getting to the leaders. His gang—he said—could invest 150 million in the purchase of a large quantity of heroin. He seemed a "good" contact.

Other military personnel in civilian clothes supported the big blitz from outside, ready to enter the action at the opportune moment. But unexpectedly the Fasano men suspected a trick, as a result of a word from above. Perhaps from some person above suspicion who had been protecting the gang, from some important "mole." The raid is off, the undercover agent drops from circulation and returns to the ranks, but he has gathered a lot of evidence. The same evidence which led Dr Savino to unleash a squall of arrest warrants?

Along parallel lines to the investigation on drugs, the police are working on apparently related cases. Galluzzi, an ambiguous character who is said to have entertained even famous singers and actors (one of them used to "get a fix" at his house when he came to Apulia) seems implicated also in arms trafficking (he was found in possession of a gun and of ammunition held illegally). In the Bari villa in which Cianciola were arrested they also found hundreds of syringes, tourniquets and equipment for the use of heavy drugs, also 51 archeological "pieces" from clandestine excavations. They consist of Greek vases and objects brought to light perhaps by "grave robbers" who work around Taranto and [translation unknown], dating back to the period between the sixth and fourth century before Christ.

The archeological material was determined to be of inestimable value by an official of the Fine Arts staff, who examined the pieces yesterday afternoon.

Along with the drugs is the possibility therefore of another case which remains to be considered and studied in depth: the clandestine market in archeological finds. Another traffic which means billions.

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SWEDEN

POLICE BREAK UP TWO LARGE HEROIM SMUGGLING RINGS

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 11 Dec 80 p 11

[Article by Bo Engzell]

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[Text] As a result of searching for the murderer of a female prostitute narcotics addict in Malmo, the police have been able to break up two large heroin gangs. Narcotics worth millions have been confiscated. Fifteen people have been arrested or their arrest demanded, and many more arrests are imminent.

The Malmo police are afraid that Sweden like West Germany will be flooded with large quantities of heroin at reduced prices, which can multiply several times the already large number of heroin abusers.

The reason for the anticipated new wave of heroin, according to commissioner Willy Olsson of the narcotics division of the Malmo police, is that the "Golden Triangle" --Burma, Laos and Tahiland--wants, after a good harvest of narcotics plants, to regain the European market which was lost to Turkey, Itan and Iraq.

"For smugglers from the 'Golden Triangle' to be able to take over agian in Sweden we can expect large, abundant quantities of heroin at reduced prices," commissioner Olsson said.

"This means, in addition to war between the gangs, the risk that the number of users will climb sharply. That has happened in West Germany, where reduced heroin prices have already been introduced. We are afraid this wave will soon reach Sweden."

"Only the Beginning"

Fifteen big dealers and sellers from two Malmo gangs have already been apprehended.

"But it is only the beginning of the investigation," said chief prosecutor Sten Runerheim. "So far we just seen the tip of the iceberg. Narcotics some to Malmo from various parts of the world."

As the gangs fight for customers, the narcotics abusers, violence is increasing in Malmo.

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More and more of the dealers who have been apprehended are armed with guns, commissioner Olsson revealed. Many abusers buy heroin on credit. There are young people who owe dealers 50,000 kroner. If they don't pay, they are threatened.

For example, a women dealer who has just been arrested recently stopped a youth when he was driving his car. The youth owed her 50,000 kronor. The dealer queen and her "gorilla" jumped into the car.

"The youth was ordered to drive to a parking place. There he was severely beaten with an iron pipe and his car was knocked to pieces by the "gorilla," commissioner Olsson said.

The big move against heroin dealers started shortly after a woman prostitute narcotics addict was found murdered several months ago in a house which was to be demolished in Malmo. The murderer is still at large.

"It cannot be precluded that the murder was committed by a narcotics dealer to whom the woman owed money," commissioner Wally Olsson said. "There have been similar murders in Copenhagen."

According to commi ssioner Olsson, depressing scenarios have been revealed in connection with the narcotics investigations. Desperate parents plead with the police to take care of their children after the parents have been threatened by addicts and dealers because the children's debts were not paid.

A number of families have been ruined through paying their children's debts to deale. >.

In connection with the arrest of big dealers, a number of big pimps have also been exposed. One had several kilograms of church silver hidden away.

None of the gangs unmasked up to now have had connections with the Danish narcotics market. The heroin has been imported directly to Malmo. The confiscations which have taken place indicate that much of it has come by air.

Many of the dealers who have exposed have mixed small quantities of strychnine with the heroin.

"Poisonous doses have not been involved, but the strychnine works in such a way that the heroin injection does not "take" and the addict quickly has to get more heroin. This increases the earnings of cynical dealers," commissioner Olsson said.

The Malmo police are of the opinion it has been clearly established that the step from cannabis to heroin abuse is not great.

"We have been able to establish that many young people who have used cannabis quickly become dependent upon heroin. Heroin abuse has become an everyday matter," commissioner Olsson said in conclusion.

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